



# Analytic Standards

## Common Standards for Evaluating the Quality of Analysis

### What are Analytic Standards?

Analytic Standards govern the production and evaluation of national intelligence analysis. The standards are intended to guide the writing of intelligence analysis in all Intelligence Community (IC) analytic elements and should be included in analysis teaching modules and case studies. The following five core principles serve as the nucleus of analytic standards:

- Objectivity
- Independent of political considerations
- Timeliness
- Informed by all relevant sources of information
- Demonstrates proper standards of analytic tradecraft

The Office of Analytic Integrity and Standards (AIS) within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence is constantly working to build a network of analysts interested in learning new methods, connecting with other analysts using structured techniques, and learning from methodological experts both inside and outside of the IC.

### How can Analytic Standards help us?

Common standards across the IC leave no room for ambiguity, and provide clear, consistent guidance to analysts, managers, and trainers for the production of analytic products and processes. The five core principles set the standard by which analytic products can be measured using quantitative and qualitative methods.

### What is happening with Analytic Standards?

AIS provides continuous feedback to IC elements on the quality of analytic tradecraft and recently published a report analyzing a sample of over 1,500 of the Community's finished intelligence products from 2006 and 2007. To promote continuous learning and improvement, each IC analytic element is developing or refining its own in-house analytic tradecraft evaluation program to further advance understanding of the analytic standards and how to apply them.